



English

Curriculum Overview

English is a core subject at Woolton High School. The curriculum of the school reflects the demands of the National Curriculum. It is designed in order to provide all pupils with a broad, balanced education relevant to their needs both now and in the future.

English has a pre-eminent place in education and in society. A high-quality education in English will teach pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others and through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them. Through reading in particular, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Literature, especially, plays a key role in such development. Reading also enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and to build on what they already know.

All the skills of language are essential to participating fully as a member of society; pupils, therefore, who do not learn to speak, read and write fluently and confidently are effectively disenfranchised. Throughout their time at Woolton, Pupils shall have the opportunity to achieve multiple qualifications in English.

Departmental Overview

The English Department is comprised of 4 specialist teachers:

- Mr C.Wright- KS3/4-English Teacher
- Mrs L.Bohanna –TEC 1 Teacher and Phonics Specialist.
- Miss B.Smith- TEC 2 Teacher and KS2/3 Transition Specialist
- Miss S.Trainer -Whole School Literacy Coordinator

Year 7 English (KS3) Curriculum Overview

AQA Functional Skills Level 1 & Key Stage 3 Curriculum Overview

Pupils study 6 Units of work, two in each term:

Unit 1

English Language Literary Reading and Creative Writing: Pupils will read a wide range of fiction and short stories. Through this, pupils will learn new vocabulary and read for challenge, interest and enjoyment. These texts may be based on fairy tales or super hero stories, although teachers may choose other texts suitable for their groups. These texts will then be used as inspiration to encourage pupils to produce their own written pieces, focusing on plot, setting and characterisation, as well as accuracy, fluency, vocabulary and skill. **Exam Link – AQA GCSE Paper 1**

Unit 2

The Nineteenth Century Novel: Throughout the Key Stages, pupils will study a range of authors from the Nineteenth Century. They will learn new vocabulary, relating it explicitly to known vocabulary and understanding it with the help of context and dictionaries. Pupils will understand the plot and characterisation of the novel, as well as the context and themes and the effects of these. Most pupils will study Mary Shelley's 'Frankenstein', but this will depend on the teacher and the class as other 19th Century texts are available to challenge and stretch. **AQA GCSE Exams Paper 1 & 2**

Unit 3

An introduction to Shakespeare : A study of language over time, research the 'Bard', The Globe Theatre, context, examples of language, characters and themes from different plays. **AQA Functional Skills Reading L1&2**

Unit 4

English Language Literary Non-fiction Reading and Discursive Writing: Pupils will read a wide range of non-fiction texts from a range of different time periods. (19th/20th & 21st Century) Through this, pupils will continue to learn new vocabulary and read for challenge, interest and enjoyment. These texts will be primarily related to the art of persuasion and will include an enterprise project, although teachers may choose other topics suitable for their groups. These texts will then be used as a basis to encourage pupils to produce their own written pieces, focusing on leaflets, radio broadcasts, reports and formal speech as well as accuracy, fluency, vocabulary and skill. **AQA Functional Skill L1&2, AQA GCSE Paper 1 &2**

Unit 5

Seminal world literature: Modern Drama Study: Pupils will study a range of contemporary literature. This will help them to develop an appreciation and love of reading and to read increasingly challenging material independently. Pupils will study a contemporary play, for example 'Our Day Out' by Willy Russell. They will learn to understand setting, plot and characterization and the effects of these, as well as an understanding of how the work of dramatists is communicated effectively through performance and how alternative staging allows for different interpretations of a play. **AQA Functional Skill L1&2, AQA GCSE Paper 1 &2**

Unit 6

Poetry: Pupils will recognise a range of poetic conventions and understand how these have been used. They will explore how language, including figurative language, vocabulary choice, grammar, text structure and organisational features, present meaning. They will read a wide range of poetry and cover a wide range of genres, historical periods, forms and poets. The themes for Year 7 poetry are relationships, or different cultures, but these could change to suit the group. Pupils will have the opportunity to write their own poetry, applying their growing knowledge of vocabulary, grammar and text structure to their writing. **AQA GCSE Paper 1**

Throughout the academic year:

Independent reading

Spelling, punctuation and grammar skills

Examinations/Key Assessments

Department Standardised Assessments for Language:

- Reading and Spelling Tests at three points in the year.
- Initial Writing Assessment.
- Christmas and Summer Mock AQA Functional Skills Assessments.

How Parents can Help:

- Request Homework to be set from school.
- Encourage independent reading of both fiction and non-fiction texts
- Request a fortnightly update on progress

Year 8 English (KS3) Curriculum Overview

Pupils study 6 modules of work, two in each term:

Unit 1

English Language Literary Reading and Creative Writing: Pupils will read a wide range of fiction and short stories. Through this, pupils will learn new vocabulary and read for challenge, interest and enjoyment. These texts may be based on the detective or gothic genres, although teachers may choose other texts suitable for their groups. These texts will then be used as inspiration to encourage pupils to produce their own written pieces, focusing on plot, atmosphere, mood and narrative style, as well as accuracy, fluency, vocabulary and skill. **AQA GCSE Paper 1**

Unit 2

The Nineteenth Century Novel: Throughout the Key Stages, pupils will study a range of authors from the Nineteenth Century. They will learn new vocabulary, relating it explicitly to known vocabulary and understanding it with the help of context and dictionaries. Pupils will understand the plot and characterisation of the novel and the effects of these. Most pupils will study Charles Dickens' 'Oliver Twist', but this will depend on the teacher and the class. By studying Charles Dickens will also be considering a selection of texts by the same author within the Key Stage. **AQA GCSE Paper 1 & 2**

Unit 3

Shakespeare : Pupils will study a complete play and aim to compare setting, character or themes with another Shakespeare text. Students will read critically, understanding how language, including figurative language, vocabulary choice, grammar, text structure and organisational features presents meaning. Plays to be studied include Macbeth and Romeo and Juliet. **AQA Functional Skill L1&2**

Unit 4

English Language Literary Non-fiction Reading and Discursive Writing: Pupils will read a wide range of non-fiction texts from a range of different time periods. Through this, pupils will continue to learn new vocabulary and read for challenge, interest and enjoyment. These texts will be primarily be related to the topics of inventions across time and a charity campaign, although teachers may

choose other topics suitable for their groups. These texts will then be used as a basis to encourage pupils to produce their own written pieces, focusing on reviews and lively articles and the formal writing of letters and leaflets. [AQA Functional Skill L1&2, AQA GCSE Paper 2](#)

Unit 5

Seminal world literature: Modern Prose Study: Pupils will study a range of contemporary literature. This will help them to develop an appreciation and love of reading and to read increasingly challenging material independently. Pupils will study a modern prose, for example 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' by John Boyne. They will learn to understand setting, plot and characterisation and the effects of these. [AQA Functional Skill L1&2, AQA GCSE Paper 1 &2](#)

Unit 6

Poetry: Pupils will recognise a range of poetic conventions and understand how these have been used. They will explore how language, including figurative language, vocabulary choice, grammar, text structure and organisational features, present meaning. They will read a wide range of poetry and cover a wide range of genres, historical periods, forms and poets. The theme for Year 8 poetry is nature, but this could change to suit the group. Pupils will have the opportunity to study poets such as Armitage, Duffy, Heaney and Clark. They will be able to write their own poetry, applying their growing knowledge of vocabulary, grammar and text structure to their writing. [AQA Functional Skill L1&2, AQA GCSE Paper 1 &2](#)

Examinations/Key Assessments

Department Standardised Assessments for Language:

- Reading and Spelling Tests at three points in the year.
- Initial Writing Assessment.
- Christmas and Summer Mock AQA Functional Skills Assessments.

How Parents can Help:

- Request Homework to be set from school.

- Encourage independent reading of both fiction and non-fiction texts
- Request a fortnightly update on progress

Year 9 English (KS3) Curriculum Overview

AQA English Language & Functional Skills Lvl 1 Curriculum Curriculum Overview

Pupils study 6 modules of work, two in each term:

Unit 1

English Language Literary Reading and Creative Writing: Pupils will read a wide range of fiction and short stories. Through this, pupils will learn new vocabulary and read for challenge, interest and enjoyment. These texts may be based on dystopian or science-fiction genres, although teachers may choose other topics suitable for their groups. These texts will then be used as inspiration to encourage pupils to produce their own written pieces, focusing on audience and purpose, as well as accuracy, fluency, vocabulary and skill. **AQA Functional Skill L1&2, AQA GCSE Paper 1**

Unit 2

The Nineteenth Century Novel: Throughout the Key Stages, pupils will study a range of authors from the Nineteenth Century. They will learn new vocabulary, relating it explicitly to known vocabulary and understanding it with the help of context and dictionaries. Pupils will understand the plot and characterisation of the novel and the effects of these. Most pupils will study Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol', but this will depend on the teacher and the class. By studying Charles Dickens, pupils will also be considering a selection of texts by the same author within the Key Stage. **AQA GCSE Paper 1 &2**

Unit 3

World Literature: Pupils will study a range of authors from the Nineteenth Century. They will learn new vocabulary, relating it explicitly to known vocabulary and understanding it with the help of context and dictionaries. Pupils will understand the plot and characterisation of the novel and the effects of these. Most pupils will study John Steinbeck's 'Of Mice and Men', but this will depend on the teacher and the class. By studying , pupils will also be considering a selection of texts by similar author within the Key Stage. **AQA Functional Skill L1&2, AQA GCSE Paper 1 &2**

Unit 4

English Language Literary Non-fiction Reading and Discursive Writing: Pupils will read a wide range increasingly challenging non-fiction texts from a range of different time periods. Through this, pupils will continue to learn new vocabulary and read for challenge, interest and enjoyment. These texts will be primarily be related to the topics of modern society and real world stories, although teachers may choose other topics suitable for their groups. These texts will then be used as a basis to encourage pupils to produce their own written pieces, focusing on formal and informal letter writing, lively articles and posters, as well as accuracy, fluency, vocabulary and skill. **AQA Functional Skill L1&2, AQA GCSE Paper 2**

Unit 5

Seminal world literature: Modern Prose or Drama Study: Pupils will study a range of contemporary literature. This will help them to develop an appreciation and love of reading and to read increasingly challenging material independently. Pupils will study a modern prose, for example 'Animal Farm' by George Orwell or they may study a modern drama, such as 'Blood Brothers' by Willy Russell. They will learn to understand setting, plot and characterisation and the effects of these. **AQA Functional Skill L1&2, AQA GCSE Paper 1 &2**

Unit 6

Poetry: Pupils will recognise a range of poetic conventions and understand how these have been used. They will explore how language, including figurative language, vocabulary choice, grammar, text structure and organisational features, present meaning. They will read a wide range of poetry and cover a wide range of genres, historical periods, forms and poets. Pupils will have the opportunity to write their own poetry, applying their growing knowledge of vocabulary, grammar and text structure to their writing. **AQA Functional Skill L1&2, AQA GCSE Paper 1 &2**

Examinations/Key Assessments

Department Standardised Assessments for Language:

- Reading and Spelling Tests at three points in the year.
- Initial Writing Assessment.
- Christmas and Summer Mock AQA Functional Skills Assessments.

- Opportunities to take Functional Skills Level 1 Qualification

How Parents can Help:

- Request Homework to be set from school.
- Encourage independent reading of both fiction and non-fiction texts
- Request a fortnightly update on progress

Year 10/11 English (KS4) Examination/Specification Board

AQA English Language & Key Stage 4 Curriculum Overview

Year 10 Pupils will focus on specific elements of the AQA Functional Skills Lvl 1 & 2 exams:

Unit 1:

Functional Skills Level 1 Reading- Looking for information, Inference and Fact finding

Unit 2:

Functional Skills Level 1 Writing-Writing for Format, Audience and Purpose.

Unit 3:

Functional Skills Level 2 Reading: - Looking for information, Inference, writing a summary and Fact finding

Unit 4:

Functional Skills Level 1 Writing-Writing for Format, Audience and Purpose.

Year 11 Pupils will focus on specific elements of the AQA English Language exams whilst also tidying up any gaps in knowledge from FS Lvl 1 /2 (see Yr 10 Planning):

Unit 1:

Language Paper 1 Section A: Reading One Literature extract & AQA English Language Paper 1 Section B: Narrative/ Descriptive

Unit 2:

AQA English Language Paper 2 Section A: Reading Two Non-Fiction Texts & AQA English Language Paper 2 Section B: Transactional Writing

Long Term Plan (All Years)

Year Group	A1	A2	S1	S2	SU1	SU2
7	Unit 1 – Creative Writing	Unit 2- 19 th Century Literature	Unit 6 - Poetry	Unit 3- Shakespeare	Unit 5- Seminal World Literature/Modern Prose	Unit 4- English Language Literary Non-fiction Reading and Discursive Writing
8	Unit 1 – Creative Writing	Unit 2- 19 th Century Literature	Unit 6 - Poetry	Unit 3- Shakespeare	Unit 5- Seminal World Literature/Modern Prose	Unit 4- English Language Literary Non-fiction Reading and Discursive Writing
9	Unit 1 – Creative Writing	Unit 2 – 19 th Century Literature	Unit 6 - Poetry	Unit 3- World Literature	Unit 5- Seminal World Literature/Modern Prose	Unit 4- English Language Literary Non-fiction Reading and Discursive Writing
10	Unit 2- FS 1 Writing	Unit 3- FS 2 Reading	Unit 4- FS 2 Writing	Revision Sessions/Exam Prep	Lord of the Flies – (Pre GCSE)	Introduction to GCSE
11	Unit 1 – GCSE Paper 1	Unit 2- GCSE Paper 2	Unit 1- GCSE Paper 1	Unit 2 –GCSE Paper 2	Revision Sessions/Exam Prep	